

1 (Currently amended): An inkjet ink comprising:

a self-dispersing pigment;

a basic, amine-functional-group-containing ~~an amino-containing~~ compound

comprising no more than one ~~primary amino~~ amine functional group

selected from the amine functional groups consisting of primary amine

functional groups and ~~or one secondary amino group;~~ amine functional

groups; and

an aqueous vehicle.

2 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 1, wherein the self-dispersing pigment is a surface oxidized carbon black.

3 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 2, wherein the self-dispersing carbon black has been oxidized to form carboxylate functional groups on the surface of the carbon black.

4 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 3, wherein the self-dispersing carbon black has an acid number of about 0.5 to about 1.5 milliequivalents of COOH/gram of carbon black.

5 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 1, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amino-containing~~ compound comprises one primary ~~amino~~ amine functional group and at least one tertiary ~~amino~~ amine functional group.

6 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 1, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amino-containing~~ compound has a molecular weight of less than about 600.

7 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 1, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amino-containing~~ compound further comprises a ring containing 5 to 8 atoms.

8 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 1, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amino-containing~~ compound comprises one primary ~~amino~~ amine functional group

and one tertiary ~~amine~~ amine functional group wherein the tertiary ~~amine~~ amine functional group is part of a ring containing 5 to 8 atoms.

9 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 1, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amine-containing~~ compound comprises one secondary ~~amine~~ amine functional group wherein the secondary ~~amine~~ amine functional group is part of a ring containing 5 to 8 atoms.

10 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 1, further comprising a binder.

11 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 1, further comprising a pigmented dispersion comprising a pigment and a polymeric dispersant.

12 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 11, wherein the pigmented dispersion comprises carbon black pigment.

13 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 1, further comprising
a pigmented dispersion comprising a pigment and a polymeric dispersant; and
a binder.

14 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 13, wherein the pigmented dispersion comprises carbon black pigment.

15 (Currently amended): An inkjet ink comprising:
a self-dispersing pigment associated with a basic, amine-functional-group-
containing ~~an amine-containing~~ compound wherein the amine-
functional-group-containing ~~amine-containing~~ compound forms a
stabilizing layer; and
an aqueous vehicle.

16 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 15, wherein the self-dispersing pigment is a surface oxidized carbon black.

17 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 16, wherein the self-dispersing carbon black has been oxidized to form carboxylate functional groups on the surface of the carbon black.

18 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 17, wherein the self-dispersing carbon black has an acid number of about 0.5 to about 1.5 milliequivalents of COOH/gram of carbon black.

19 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 15, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amino-containing~~ compound comprises one primary ~~amino~~ amine functional group and at least one tertiary ~~amino~~ amine functional group.

20 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 15, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amino-containing~~ compound has a molecular weight of less than about 600.

21 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 15, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amino-containing~~ compound further comprises a ring containing 5 to 8 atoms.

22 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 15, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amino-containing~~ compound comprises one primary ~~amino~~ amine functional group and one tertiary ~~amino~~ amine functional group wherein the tertiary ~~amino~~ amine functional group is part of a ring containing 5 to 8 atoms.

23 (Currently amended): The inkjet ink of claim 15, wherein the amine-functional-group-containing ~~amino-containing~~ compound comprises one secondary ~~amino~~ amine functional group wherein the secondary ~~amino~~ amine functional group is part of a ring containing 5 to 8 atoms.

24 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 15, further comprising a binder.

25 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 15, further comprising a pigmented dispersion comprising a pigment and a polymeric dispersant.

26 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 25, wherein the pigmented dispersion comprises carbon black pigment.

27 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 15, further comprising
a pigmented dispersion comprising a pigment and a polymeric dispersant; and
a binder.

28 (Original): The inkjet ink of claim 27, wherein the pigmented dispersion comprises carbon black pigment.

Claims 29-38 (Canceled)

Remarks

The election of Group I, claims 1-28 is affirmed. The non-elected claims, claims 29-38 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer in anticipation of allowance

Claim 1 is reworded somewhat to remove any possible interpretation that the claims cover a compound with both a primary amine functional group and a second amine function group. Throughout the claims "amino" is replaced with "amine functional group." The compound is also described as "basic" to negate substituents that nullify the fundamental characteristics of the amine functional group or groups.

The amine functional group is well recognized as being a nitrogen substituted with any alkyl or aryl. Where the nitrogen is substituted with something else, it is not an amine functional group. When the nitrogen is substituted with a carbon having a double bonded oxygen, that functional group is, of course, an amide functional group. Accordingly, the claims clearly distinguish from an amide functional group.


The two pending independent claims, claims 1 and 15 are rejected as anticipated by the teaching of the Parazak reference of 2-pyrrolidone and 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone as co-solvents. In both of these, however, the nitrogen-containing functional group is an amide. Accordingly, that teaching of Parazak is not chemically similar to the claims. In fact the invention of this application does not employ the claimed amine compounds as co-solvents, but as compounds stabilizing the self dispersed pigment. Claim 15 expressly claims the stabilizing, which, in itself, distinguishes over Parazak.

Claims 5, 8, 19, and 22 are more specific in limiting the structure of the amine compounds to having both primary and tertiary amine functional groups, and therefore distinguish even further over the cited compounds of Parazak. The other claims take their allowability on this record from their dependence on allowed claims as just discussed.

Accordingly, reconsideration in due course, followed by allowance of claim 1-28, all of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Edward Akers, Jr.


John A. Brady, Reg. No 22,070
Attorney for Applicants
Lexmark International, Inc.
Intellectual Property Law Dept.
740 W. New Circle Road
Lexington, KY 40550
(859) 232-4785